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AI lab
Jan 1974
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[unclear]

March 22, 1974

Professor Edward A Feigenbaum
Computer Science Department
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Ed:

I am sending you the enclosed announcement, which may be of interest to you or some of your associates, and may not otherwise come to your attention. The National Institute of Education wishes to make a serious exploration of the prospects for supporting artificial intelligence research that would cast light on human language processing. This announcement represents the first step toward getting the knowledge the agency feels it needs in order to plan any kind of subsequent grant program, and I think it is vitally important that the job be done well. I hope you will give serious thought to the possibility of undertaking one or more of the studies that are requested, or, if you can't do that, interesting another person who would be qualified to do them.


edmc

The announcement sets a 15-day deadline for replies, but I expect that need not be taken completely literally--that replies received within a reasonable time will get careful attention from NIE.

There are prospects here for substantial support for AI research, and for application of that research to an important area of human cognitive performance. I hope the AI community will be able to provide NIE with the information it needs to build an effective research grant program in this area.

If you are interested in the possibility of undertaking one of the pre-planning tasks, but would like more information about the background of this activity, please give me a ring, and I'll try to fill you in.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert A. Simon
Professor of Computer Science
and Psychology

Enclosure
HAS/ela